

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5 and 7-9 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended, and claims 4 and 6 are cancelled. Independent claim 1 is amended to even more clearly distinguish over the applied reference. Claim 1 also is amended for clarity. Claim 7 is amended so that it uses terminology that is consistent with the terminology used in claim 9, which depends from claim 7. Claims 4 and 6 are cancelled as they are now redundant to what is recited in claim 1. No new matter is added by the above amendments.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner is requested to consider U.S. Patent No. 6,707,616, which is cited in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement. This patent corresponds to Application No. 09/680,316, which was identified in the August 22, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement, but which the Examiner did not initial on the PTO-1449.

II. The Pending Claims are Enabled

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The combination of features recited in independent claim 1 (as well as in all dependent claims) is clearly enabled and described in the specification. In particular, the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 17-19b and described on page 60, line 1 - page 75, line 12 clearly supports and enables what is recited in the claims of this application. For example, optical elements M1 and M2 are indirectly connected by support body 402 to reference reflective surface MS2, which, in turn, is used to adjust the optical elements M1 and M2. See, for example, page 62, lines 19-22 and page 68, line 19 - page 71, line 19.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph is requested.

III. All Pending Claims are Patentable

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,680,260 to Farcella et al. In addition, claims 3-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Farcella et al. The rejection of claims 1 and 2 is rendered moot because the features of claims 4 or 6 have been incorporated into claim 1. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully traversed.

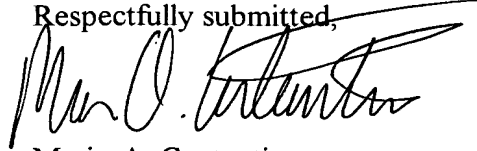
Farcella et al. does not disclose or suggest the combination of features recited in independent claim 1, in which a reference surface for adjusting an optical element is a reflecting surface that is connected to the optical element. Farcella et al. does not disclose or suggest a reflecting surface that is connected to and used to adjust (e.g., align) an optical element. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/ccs

Attachment:
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: July 9, 2004

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